Testimony of the Connecticut Audubon Society to the Environment Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly in strong support of H.B. No. 5139 An Act Concerning Extended Producer Responsibility For Tires.

February 22, 2022

The Connecticut Audubon Society thanks the Committee and the sponsors of **H.B. No. 5139 An Act Concerning Extended Producer Responsibility for Tires** for proposing this important resolution and for the opportunity to express our strong support this important measure. This will incentivize producers, distributers and consumers to properly dispose of old tires, which have an exceedingly long life in the waste cycle and can be a vector for disease carrying mosquitoes that pose a risk to birds through the transmission of west Nile virus.

We support any attempts to expand reduce environmental waste and to encourage the proper recycling of tires and other materials.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on this important matter.

Patrick M. Comins, Executive Director

Founded in 1898, the Connecticut Audubon Society is an independent organization that conserves Connecticut's environment through science-based education and advocacy focused on the state's bird populations and habitats. We own and manage 20 preserves covering more than 3,300 acres in all areas of the state, and we work with landowners to help them manage their land for the benefit of birds and other wildlife.